

House Resolution No. 529

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have dedicated themselves to overcoming significant personal handicap in themselves and others; and

Whereas, Don Diamond of Jackson, Missouri, has attained distinction for his receipt of a Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) 2003 Personal Achievement Award from the organization's Twin Rivers Chapter; and

Whereas, initiated in 1992, the national Personal Achievement Award program recognizes the accomplishments and community service of people with disabilities caused by any of the neuromuscular diseases covered by the Muscular Dystrophy Association's programs; and

Whereas, thirty-five-year-old Don Diamond was initially diagnosed with Becker muscular dystrophy in 1979, since which time he has been active in the Muscular Dystrophy Association's fight against neuromuscular disease, has attended local MDA summer camp and clinics, and has volunteered at Telethons, lock-ups, and other fund-raising activities; and

Whereas, founder of Fish For A Wish which raised more than \$15,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Don Diamond is now engaged in rounding up sponsors, silent auction items, and entertainment for The Diamond Bowl bowl-a-thon to be held in March 2003; and

Whereas, in addition to his organization of fund-raisers, Don Diamond lives independently in an apartment suitable for adults with disabilities and holds two jobs, one as a VRC with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the other as a cashier at a local convenience store; and

Whereas, Don Diamond is one of only one hundred fifty local Personal Achievement Award winners from across the United States and is in line to compete for a 2004 National Personal Achievement Award:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Don Diamond for a Muscular Dystrophy Association Personal Achievement Award and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest commendation of his activist work on behalf of those who are physically challenged; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Don Diamond of Jackson, Missouri.

Offered by _____

Representative Scott A. Lipke

District No. 157

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 529, adopted February 27, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker